

### Some Health Care Statistics

#### **NCC School of Practical Nursing**

LPN Grads- 42

#### **NCC Nursing Home**

180 Beds

98% Medicaid

#### **NCC Home Friends**

30 Employees

244 Clients

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### Quotes

*Medicine is the only Profession that labors incessantly to destroy the reason for its own existence.*

*James Bryce*

*I enjoy convalescence. It is the part that makes the illness worthwhile.*

*George Bernard Shaw*

*Twentieth century medical care cannot be given in 19<sup>th</sup> century hospitals ...* Jacob K. Javits

*If I had my way, I'd make health catching instead of disease.*

*R.H. Ingerall*

*When the Czar has a cold all Russia coughs*

*Russian Proverb*

### Mission

To help residents of inner cities improve the quality of their lives to reflect individual God-given dignity and personal achievement.

## NCC Health Care Services

### **Housing and Health - Basic Needs**

In 1968 when New Community was created, there was only one imperative, **Housing**. Family and senior housing along with Security, Maintenance, Management soon took hold.

However, at the urgency of senior residents, NCC's first health- related center opened in 1986- Extended Care facility (ECF). Subsequently, NCC opened four Medical Day Care Centers; Home Health Aide and Home Friends Programs were adopted. The NCC Health Care Ladder was hereby introduced. There is room next door to the LPN Classes for those who want to keep climbing the ladder to achieve RN status.

Market research noted the demand for Certified Nursing Assistant, Medical Biller Specialists, Licensed Practical Nurse (LPN), etc. The Workforce Development Center (1999) included all these programs in their curriculum. The Family Service Bureau tends to mental health issues for employees and the community. The need to house and centralize these health- related programs and classes under one roof was becoming apparent. .

Hence, on 11/24/04 New Jersey Governor Richard Codey dedicated NCC's newest facility, The Health Care Services Building. This new Health Care/ Education Building is a symbol of NCC's commitment to the community and its residents.

Please help us to continue to care.





## **THE CHANGING FACE OF IMMIGRATION LAW**

As the year 2004 comes to an end, immigrant advocates find themselves waiting with bated breath for the next action regarding immigration law. The year 2004 ended with the approval of landmark legislation that was intended to restructure the country's intelligence communities in light of 9/11. In December both the House and Senate reconvened to work on a reform bill making major changes meant to provide the country with more security. It was held up by both the right and left because of the addition of anti-immigrant provisions in the House version. The good news is that most of those items were NOT passed and thus a compromise bill was agreed upon. However, a number of provisions remain that will affect the lives of our brothers and sisters who have immigrated to the USA.

The Intelligence Reform Bill includes the following:

- Increase the number of Border Patrol agents by 2000 each year for the next 5 years
- Increase the number of Immigration and Custom Enforcement agents by 800 a year for the next 5 years
- Increase the number of beds available for immigration detainees by 40,000
- The Department of Homeland Security will be required to establish "minimum standards" for birth certificates and drivers' licenses (possibly the first step toward a national ID card)
- Require visa applicants to have "in person" interviews

The removal of other provisions has left the door open for the 109<sup>th</sup> Congress to begin working on a bill that deals primarily with immigration and would attempt to put into law the provisions that were removed from the original house version (HR10) as well as add new and even more devastating regulations. For those who work daily with immigrants, the thought alone is terrifying. Our biblical mandate calls on us to welcome the stranger...and if we do not?

How does this affect us here in Northern New Jersey? In New Community? For native-born Americans it seems that there is no problem. That is not true. Many of our neighbors have arrived here from other countries; many have married; many have children born here. However, because of the availability of "immigration detention" facilities for non-criminals in our area, the affect has been sorely felt in many well known families.

A horrendous example is the story of Maria who awoke one morning at 5:00 AM to pounding at her apartment door. Looking out she saw two uniformed policemen. Thinking there was a problem in the building and feeling confident with the police, she opened the door. That was the beginning of a new phase of her life. She was asked for her documents. Having none to produce, they asked who else lived in the



house. She told them she had three daughters, 17, 5 and 4 years old. They were all born here and were American citizens. At that point Maria was summarily handcuffed and taken to the detention facility in Elizabeth, NJ. By this time the children were awake and watched in horror as the scene unfolded.

Maria was held in maximum-security conditions and then deported to her native country. The children had no idea where their mother went, why she was picked up after 17 years in the country, and what would happen to them. They went to the nearby convent for help. At this writing Maria has been deported. The children are still here and will most probably have to return to their mother's country if they are to grow up under her care.

Maria's story is just one of so many. The Elizabeth Detention Center five years ago housed nearly 100% asylum seekers. That number is drastically reduced and the "jail" is now being filled with people who are picked up on the streets especially if stopped for a traffic violation, in their homes in the early hours of the morning, or at their jobs. According to our country's laws, they are "illegal" and so they deserve this imprisonment and deportation. In a country that touts its "family values", we should be shocked at what we have become.

For the new year, as the new Congress takes its seat, it will be important for all to keep abreast of what our elected officials are signing into law in a country built on immigrants. Laws that are disguised as "security blankets" should not destroy families, immigrants, or other vulnerable people of our society. Since "mandate" is the word of the hour, ours is clear as well as biblical.

Gerri Mulligan  
Director, HDC

## Social Investments

Since NCC's energies are always poured into initiatives which generate employment, it is essential that the Workforce Development Center remain as updated as possible.

Today's workplace, in any field, does not function without technology. The Youth Automotive Training Center, (YATC) demands the latest in technological wonders and maintenance for every new car on the road. Instructors cannot train students for tomorrow with yesterday's tools.

While NCC struggles constantly with financing, Msgr. Linder is loathe to cancel a successful program when funding sources are cut. The Social Investment fund then becomes a lifesaver.

We thank you. Please continue to consider NCC when you are determining alternative investments.

*May the New Year be blessed with the gift of faith, the blessing of love and the promise of peace.*





## Lisa Fedder

The Family Service Bureau of Newark became an affiliate of NCC in 1998. Lisa Fedder, the present director and an outstanding counselor, came with them. She and her department have proven to be invaluable to NCC employees, residents, and the community-at-large.

Lisa was born and raised in Baltimore, MD. She lived in Brooklyn while commuting to work in NYC, and now resides with her husband and three children in South Orange, NJ.

Her formal education includes: BA, Connecticut College; MSW, Hunter School of Social Work, NY; Certifications include LCSW, CHDC. (Lisa's training, natural ability and intelligence were tested to the max when she was asked to debrief many of the photographers who had been on the 9/11 scene for hours filming every possible area even as the bodies fell.)

A childhood steeped in social action has molded the Lisa we admire today. Her dad was one of the founding members of Americans for Democratic Action. Her 80-year-old mother is still active in political circles. Lisa has a strong professional and political involvement in NJ Child Welfare Reform. She sits on the planning Committee in Trenton.

Since her college days Lisa has worked tirelessly and successfully with clients (often pro bono), both individuals and groups, in need of counseling for every manner of disorder, i.e., family /child therapy, sex abuse, alcohol/drug abuse, anger/stress management, crisis reaction, and conflict management. She has designed programs and given talks/workshops on many of the aforementioned topics. Lisa is especially proud of establishing the **Employee Assistance Program** for NCC employees.

While her days (and many evenings) are spent as program director and/or therapist, at home she is a devoted parent to Emily, Daniel and Matthew, who are in grade school, high school, and college, respectively. Lisa's hope for them is to become independent, self-confident and compassionate. To date, along with Christopher, her husband, Lisa notes that their children are on target. Their family are as one in their love of singing, acting, and piano playing. All are artistically endowed.

Lisa is a woman of character, heart, and understanding. She is certain that "everything we do makes a difference. We must repair the world one person at a time."

NCC is blessed to have Lisa Fedder who is indefatigable when there is a need for "repair" work.

For information on Social Investments, please contact: Rev. Msgr. William Linder  
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